

## **WEST HARTFORD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (WHHRC)**

Minutes of the September 21, Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:07pm by Co-Chair Dawn Ennis

### **Attendance:**

Esam Boraey, Co-Chair (EB): Present  
Dawn Ennis, Co-Chair (DE): Present  
Aurora Melita, Secretary (AM): Present  
Ted Mancini (TM): Excused  
Sarah Raskin (SR): Present  
Eric Schoenberg (ES): Present  
Kristyn Rosen-Jacobs (KRJ): Present  
Pramod Pradhan, Liaison and Facilitator (PP): Excused  
Tekisha Dwan Everette (TDE): Excused

### **Minutes:**

Park Road Parade on Saturday, October 1, 2022 at 10:30 AM:

DE shared that the Commission was asked to march in the parade. Members decided to march with banner and will discuss, via email, who is able to attend

Lieutenant Governor's Bans Off Our Bodies rally on September 24, 2022 in West Hartford:  
Discussed promoting event on social media. DE made motion to share information on social media, moved by AM, seconded by ES, passed by voice vote

WHHRC Recommends the adaptation of Antisemitism Definition:

ES volunteered to takeover project as SR is stepping down shortly. SR will introduce ES via email to town contact.

October WHHRC monthly meeting date change due to Jewish observance of Yom Kippur:  
Commission was in favor of changing nothing meeting date due to holiday. October Special Meeting date will be Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 7:00pm in-person at the Elmwood Community Center, Room # 24, 1106 New Britain Ave, West Hartford, CT 06110.

Discussion of potential WHHRC October Speakers:

Commission agreed to invite Ron Simpson and Ann Galer, Investigator in the Capitol Region Office of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities to attend October meeting and share more about what their office does. West Hartford is located within the Capitol Region's assigned area and would like to share what they do and how we may be able to support each other. In addition, commission agreed to invite Laura Irmischer, West Hartford's new Library Director to attend and share information about the library.

Open Discussion:

EB shared that he and DE reached out to the town for guidance on how an applicant is appointed to the commission. Members shared they would ask for notification once an applicant is appointed to commission.

AM, shared that in a recent DataHaven study food insecurity had increased drastically in CT. Shared that this was an issue for the town of West Hartford as well. Members decided that we would reach out to Food Pantry to see what we could do to assist and content local businesses to see if they were interested in supporting the food pantry. AM will reach out to Food Pantry, KRJ will reach out to West Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

SR shared that planning for Human Rights Day event should start. Commission decided to make a subcommittee to plan event, KRJ and AM volunteered. DE made motion to created subcommittee consisting of KRJ and AM, SR moved, EB seconded, passed by voice vote.

DE recognized the incredible work of Sarah Raskin and her invaluable dedication to the Commission over the year. Members wished Sarah a very happy retirement.

DE announced next meeting date will be a Special Meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 7:00pm in-person at the Elmwood Community Center, Room # 24, 1106 New Britain Ave, West Hartford, CT 06110.

DE made motion to adjourn, EB moved, SR seconded, passed by voice vote.